

## 36TH DISTRICT COURT OF DETROIT (60)

### *AGENCY PLAN: STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, GOALS AND BUDGET SUMMARY*

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court administers justice with fairness, equality and integrity, resolves matters before the court in a timely manner with trained and motivated staff, and provides courteous and prompt service in a manner that inspires public trust and confidence.

#### AGENCY GOAL:

Maintain and insure speedy, efficient and just litigation on all cases before the Court.

#### AGENCY FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

2005-06 <u>Requested</u>		2004-05 <u>Budget</u>	2005-06 <u>Recommended</u>	Increase (Decrease)
\$ 54,948,819	City Appropriations	\$ 49,354,273	\$ 38,788,202	\$ (10,566,071)
\$ 54,948,819	Total Appropriations	\$ 49,354,273	\$ 38,788,202	\$ (10,566,071)
\$ 21,806,593	City Revenues	\$ 20,334,895	\$ 21,935,860	\$ 1,600,965
1,417,444	State Reimbursements	1,417,444	1,417,444	-
\$ 23,224,037	Total Revenues	\$ 21,752,339	\$ 23,353,304	\$ 1,600,965
\$ 31,724,782	NET TAX COST:	\$ 27,601,934	<u>\$ 15,434,898</u>	\$ (12,167,036)

#### AGENCY EMPLOYEE STATISTICS:

2005-06 <u>Requested</u>		2004-05 <u>Budget</u>	04-01-05 <u>Actual</u>	2005-06 <u>Recommended</u>	Increase (Decrease)
450	City Positions	450	467	365	(85)
450	Total Positions	450	467	365	(85)

#### ACTIVITIES IN THIS AGENCY:

	2004-05 <u>Budget</u>	2005-06 <u>Recommended</u>	Increase (Decrease)
District Court - City	\$ 18,572,216	\$ 17,811,059	\$ (761,157)
State Functions	30,782,057	20,977,143	(9,804,914)
Total Appropriations	\$ 49,354,273	\$ 38,788,202	\$ (10,566,071)

## **36TH DISTRICT COURT OF DETROIT (60)**

### ***36th DISTRICT COURT ACTIVITY INFORMATION***

#### ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION: 36TH DISTRICT COURT

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is a limited jurisdiction court serving the city of Detroit. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction in all litigation up to \$25,000 and handles small claims and landlord/tenant proceedings. The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court handles a large volume of civil infraction traffic violations, drunk driving, misdemeanor and felony arraignments, and some parking violations, among various other court responsibilities. Criminal Jurisdiction includes all misdemeanor criminal offenses and preliminary examination of felony offenses. Annual case filings exceed 450,000, the majority of which are handled in the Traffic and Ordinance Division. Michigan's largest limited jurisdiction court, the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court has 31 judges, 6 magistrates, and over 400 employees at a single location in downtown Detroit. The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is one of the busiest courts in the nation. On a monthly basis, more than 160,000 citizens conduct business at the court, and in excess of 65,000 telephone inquiries are received.

#### GOAL:

To maintain and insure speedy, efficient and just litigation on all cases before the Court.

#### MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06:

In fiscal year 2004-2005, the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court will complete the implementation of the Judicial Information System (JIS). This project is mandated by the State Court, and upon its completion, the new system will be compatible with other courts in the state who also uses JIS. The Court will recognize several operational efficiencies with JIS, particularly in the implementation of required legislative changes.

The primary focus of the Court remains updating and improving technology and improving access to the Court. Citizens can pay tickets and schedule court dates over the Court's Web site. Payments can also be made at all Western Union locations or over the phone. An Interactive Voice Response System (IVR) will be completed shortly, which will allow citizens to obtain information and pay tickets over the phone.

The Felony Arraignment program has been expanded to include evening arraignments five days a week. Also, the Court has partnered with the Detroit Police Department and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department to enforce weight restrictions on motor carriers.

#### PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE FOR FY 2005-06, 2006-07 and BEYOND:

Our vision for the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is to become nationally recognized as a leader in providing innovative, cost-effective and efficient administration of justice. As Michigan's largest limited jurisdiction court, we are responsible for processing and adjudicating over 500,000 criminal, traffic and civil cases each year. Since thousands of individuals come into contact with the Court on a weekly basis, public expectations of court services have also grown.

In recent years, the challenges of serving the public has grown more complex as appropriations have often failed to keep pace with demand. An important element, which will enable us to materialize our vision of the future, is the ability to manage technology to improve court processes. It is our plan to utilize state-of-the-art technology to improve access to court information, support case management, and facilitate data exchange and integration with other agencies. In many instances, this involves using current technology in new ways (e.g. using personal computers as a vehicle for communication rather than stand alone items) and using the Internet as a vehicle for commerce as well as more general communication.

The implementation of the Judicial Information System will present the Court with the opportunity to make great strides toward achieving our vision of utilizing state of the art technology to improve court processes. This system is designed to automate and integrate many of the functional areas of the Court's judicial processes. Once implemented, this system will improve case flow management, reduce the amount of paperwork needed to maintain records and generate statistical reports required by the State of Michigan.

## **36TH DISTRICT COURT OF DETROIT (60)**

We will also concentrate our efforts on developing and implementing initiatives that continuously improve the services provided by the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court. These continuous improvement efforts focus on how things get done by isolating those processes, which could cause mistakes, delays or raise costs.

The redevelopment and implementation of new procedures and technologies will realign the Court with the changing demands of our environment. By adopting a proactive attitude toward innovation and the creation of new initiatives, the Court will continuously develop the tools necessary to respond to the expanding service needs of our customers.

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#### *DISTRICT COURT MEASURES AND TARGETS*

Type of Performance Measure: List of Measures	2002-03 Actual	2003-04 Actual	2004-05 Projection	2005-06 Target
<b>Outputs: Units of Activity directed towards Goals</b>				
Criminal Division Felony	11,592	10,872	11,959	13,155
Criminal Division Misdemeanors	134,621	83,664	92,030	101,233
Criminal Division Civil Infractions	2,030	6,419	7,061	7,767
Traffic and Ordinance Misdemeanors and Civil Traffic and Ordinance Operating under the influence of Liquor (OUIL/OWI)	244,679	197,912	217,703	239,474
Civil Division General	4,702	4,380	4,818	5,300
Civil Division Small Claims	53,397	49,823	53,815	59,197
Civil Division Real Estate	5,452	5,217	5,739	6,313
Total Cases	40,878	39,138	43,052	47,357
	497,351	397,425	436,177	479,796
<b>Activity Costs</b>	<b>\$16,346,988</b>	<b>\$16,521,999</b>	<b>\$18,572,216</b>	<b>\$17,811,059</b>

**Note:** On January 1, 2002, the State Court Administrators Office changed the requirements on how cases should be reported. After April 1, 2002, counts include re-opened cases. Work required on re-opened cases is equivalent to that on new cases. This change more accurately reflects the workload activities in the State courts.

## **36TH DISTRICT COURT OF DETROIT (60)**

### ***STATE TRANSFERRED FUNCTIONS ACTIVITY INFORMATION***

#### ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION: STATE TRANSFERRED FUNCTIONS

To exercise exclusive jurisdiction over Detroit civil claims under \$25,000, misdemeanor and ordinance violation cases and to perform all magisterial functions for felony criminal cases.

This activity encompasses the 36th District Court operations that were previously controlled by the State of Michigan, which were transferred to the City of Detroit when Public Act 374 of 1996 was enacted.

#### GOAL:

To maintain and insure speedy, efficient and just litigation on all cases before the Court.

#### MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06:

The Court continues to become involved in new initiatives to help the City and other agencies. The Court is assisting the Parking Violations Bureau by providing a magistrate to hear cases.